

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5530

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - USG/GOI CONSULTATIONS

REF: 75 ROME 17654

1. EMBOFFS DISCUSSED FORTHCOMING USG-GOI CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS WITH LOCAL PAA AND TWA REPS ON JANUARY 30 TO DETERMINE THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS ISSUES WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED DURING CONSULTATIONS. LOCAL REPS -- PLEASE PROTECT -- PROVIDED THEIR VIEWS ON CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THERE WOULD BE NO RPT NO FEEDBACK TO THEIR COMPANIES.

2. LOCAL PAA AND TWA REPS AGREED THAT FIRST PRIORITY FOR USG DURING CONSULTATIONS IS TO MAINTAIN BEYOND AND INTERMEDIATE RIGHTS NOW HELD BY US CARRIERS. TO "GIVE" ON THIS POINT, THEY SAID, WOULD CONSTITUTE UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT FOR PAA AND TWA WORLD-WIDE OPERATIONS. TWA REP SAID HE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND CLOSING DOWN OF OPERATIONS IN ITALY, SHOULD GOI DENOUNCE BILATERAL, RATHER THAN CONCEDE ON THIS POINT. PAA REP'S VIEWS, WHILE NOT EXPRESSED IN AS STRONG LANGUAGE, WERE SIMILAR. BOTH BELIEVED THAT ALITALIA STANDS TO LOSE MORE OVERALL THAN US CARRIERS IF PRESENT BILATERAL DENOUNCED AND DIRECT US-ITALY OPERATIONS NO LONGER PERMITTED TO ALL THREE CARRIERS.

3. BOTH PAA AND TWA REPS OPINED THAT, WITHOUT EXCEPTIONALLY

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STRONG STAND BY USG REPS DURING CONSULTATIONS, THERE WOULD BE

NO RPT NO CHANCE OF ELIMINATING OR REDUCING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN (US) CARRIERS WHICH CURRENTLY EXISTS AT ROME AIRPORTS. INDIVIDUAL U.S. COMPANIES, THEY NOTED, HAVE NO RPT NO LEVERAGE. AT PRESENT, ALITALIA PAYS NO LANDING/TAKEOFF FEES (CASE CURRENTLY BEFORE ITALIAN COURTS), IS NOT RPT NOT CHARGED FOR SPACE WHICH IT OCCUPIED AT AIRPORT PRIOR TO ROME AIRPORTS AUTHORITY (SOCIETA AEROPORTI DI ROMA -- SAR) TAKE-OVER, AND ENJOYS FAVORED TREATMENT IN GROUND SERVICES HANDLING PROVIDED BY SAR. NOT ONLY DID PAA AND TWA TURN OVER THE CARGO TERMINALS WHICH THEY CONSTRUCTED AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE TO SAR, BUT THEY MUST NOW PAY RENT ON THE OFFICE SPACE THEY USE IN THESE BUILDINGS. SAR HAS JUST INCREASED USER FEES IN ORDER REDUCE ITS OPERATING DEFICIT, MUCH OF WHICH RESULTS FROM FAILURE OF ALITALIA TO PAY ITS FAIR SHARE (SAR CHARTER REQUIRES IT TO COVER OPERATING COSTS FROM USER CHARGES).

4. WHILE PAA AND TWA REPS FIRMLY STATED THAT BEYOND AND INTERMEDIATE RIGHTS ARE MATTER ON WHICH USG MUST NOT COMPROMISE, BOTH APPEARED WILLING -- ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY -- TO SEE SOME TRADE OFF BETWEEN CAPACITY REGULATION AND DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT/GENERAL SERVICE STANDARDS AT ROME/FIUMICINO AIRPORT. IF NECESSARY, US CARRIER REPS WOULD (RELUCTANTLY) RECOMMEND THAT U. . "GIVE" ON CAPACITY CONTROL IF THAT WOULD ENSURE NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT AND ADEQUATE LEVEL OF GROUND HANDLING SERVICES.

5. AT END OF CONVERSATION, PAA AND TWA REPS EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT USG WOULD MAINTAIN STRONG STAND TOWARDS GOI/ALITALIA BECAUSE OF "HIGHER PRIORITY" USG INTERESTS IN ITALY, E.G., US BASES.

6. BOTH PAA AND TWA REPS EXPRESSED OPINION THAT FIVE WEEKLY 747-F ALL-CARGO SERVICES TO/FROM MILAN BY SEABOARD WOULD PROVIDE MUCH MORE CAPACITY THAN THE MILAN MARKET CAN ABSORB, EVEN TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION TRUCKING CONNECTIONS FROM FLORENCE AND TURIN AND OTHER NEARBY CENTERS. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES, AIR ROUTE AGREEMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 03 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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